

**Appl. No.** : 10/674,801  
**Filed** : September 30, 2003

### **REMARKS**

The June 30, 2005 Office Action was based upon pending Claims 1-77. This Amendment amends Claims 4-7, 8, 9, 13, 16-19, 25, 28-30, 32, 35, 36, 38, 39, 44-46, 48, 50, 51, 53, 54, 56, 57, 59-61, 63, 65, 66, 68, 74, 75 and 76 as indicated above and cancels Claims 1-3, 10-12, 24, 26, 27, 33, 34, 41-43, 49, 58, 64 and 69-73. Thus, after entry of this Amendment, Claims 4-9, 13-23, 25, 28-32, 35-40, 44-48, 50-57, 59-63, 65-68 and 74-77 are pending and presented for further consideration.

#### **Claim Rejections**

The Office Action objected to claims 4, 13, 27, 43, 58 and 73 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The Office Action objected to Claims 7, 16, 30, 46, 50, 61 and 76 for certain informalities.

The Office Action rejected Claims 1-3, 8, 9-12, 17, 18-26, 31-42, 47-57, 62-72 and 77 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 6,902,105 to Koakutsu ("the Koakutsu patent").

Further, the Office action rejected Claims 5-7, 14-16, 28-30, 44-46, 59-61 and 74-76 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Koakutsu patent in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0130919 to Templeton, et al. ("the Templeton Application").

#### **Allowable Subject Matter**

The Office Action objected to claims 4, 13, 27, 43, 58 and 73 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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Claim 4

Claim 4 now includes the limitations of Claim 4 and the limitations of the base and intervening claims. Thus, Applicants respectfully submits that amended Claim 4 is now in condition for allowance.

Claims 5-9

Claims 5-9 which depend from Claim 4 are believed to be patentable for the same reasons articulated above with respect to Claim 4 and because of the additional features recited therein.

Claim 13

Claim 13 now includes the limitations of Claim 13 and the limitations of the base and intervening claims. Thus, Applicants respectfully submits that amended Claim 13 is now in condition for allowance.

Claims 14-18

Claims 14-18 which depend from Claim 13 are believed to be patentable for the same reasons articulated above with respect to Claim 13 and because of the additional features recited therein.

Claim 27 – Now Claim 19

The limitations of objected to Claim 27 and the limitations of the base and intervening claims have been incorporated into amended Claim 19. Thus, Applicants respectfully submits that amended Claim 19 is now in condition for allowance.

Claims 20-23, 25, 28-31

Claims 20-23, 25, 28-31 which depend from amended Claim 19, are believed to be patentable for the same reasons articulated above with respect to Claim 19 and because of the additional features recited therein.

Claim 43 – Now Claim 32

The limitations of objected to Claim 43 and the limitations of the base and intervening claims have been incorporated into amended Claim 32. Thus, Applicants respectfully submits that amended Claim 32 is now in condition for allowance.

Claims 35-40 and 44-47

Claims 35-40 and 44-47 which depend from amended Claim 32 are believed to

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be patentable for the same reasons articulated above with respect to Claim 32 and because of the additional features recited therein.

Claim 58 – Now Claim 48

The limitations of objected to Claim 58 and the limitations of the base and intervening claims have been incorporated into amended Claim 48. Thus, Applicants respectfully submits that amended Claim 48 is now in condition for allowance.

Claims 50-57 and 59-62

Claims 50-57 and 59-62 which depend from amended Claim 48 are believed to be patentable for the same reasons articulated above with respect to Claim 48 and because of the additional features recited therein.

Claim 73 – Now Claim 63

The limitations of objected to Claim 73 and the limitations of the base and intervening claims have been incorporated into amended Claim 63. Thus, Applicants respectfully submits that amended Claim 63 is now in condition for allowance.

Claims 65-68 and 74-77

Claims 65-68 and 74-77 which depend from amended Claim 63 are believed to be patentable for the same reasons articulated above with respect to Claim 63 and because of the additional features recited therein.

**Objection of Claims 7, 16, 30, 46, 50, 61 and 76**

The Office Action objected to Claims 7, 16, 30, 46, 50, 61 and 76 for certain informalities. Applicant has corrected the informalities listed by the Examiner.

**Rejection of Claims 1-3, 8, 9-12, 17, 18-26, 31-42, 47-57, 62-72 and 77 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)**

The Office Action rejected Claims 1-3, 8, 9-12, 17, 18-26, 31-42, 47-57, 62-72 and 77 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by the Koakutsu patent.

As set forth above, Applicant has cancelled Claims 1-3. Applicant has amended Claims 8 and 9 to depend from amended Claim 4. Applicant has cancelled Claims 10-12. Applicant has amended Claims 17 and 18 to depend from amended Claim 13.

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Applicant has amended Claim 19. Applicant has amended Claims 20-23 to depend from Claim 19. Applicant has cancelled Claim 24. Applicant has amended Claim 25 to depend from Claim 19. Applicant has cancelled Claim 26 and Claim 31 depends from Claim 19.

Applicant has amended Claim 32. Applicant has cancelled Claims 33 and 34 and Claims 35-40 depend from Claim 32. Applicant has cancelled Claims 41 and 42 and Claim 47 depends from Claim 32.

Applicant has amended Claim 48. Applicant has cancelled Claim 49 and Claims 50-57 and 62 depend from Claim 48.

Applicant has amended Claim 63. Applicant has cancelled Claim 64 and Claims 65-68 depend from Claim 63. Applicant has cancelled Claims 69-72 and Claim 77 depends from Claim 63.

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

**Rejection of 5-7, 14-16, 28-30, 44-46, 59-61 and 74-76 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)**

The Office Action rejected Claims 5-7, 14-16, 28-30, 44-46, 59-61 and 74-76 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Koakutsu patent in view of the Templeton Application.

As set forth above, Claims 5-7 depend from amended Claim 4, Claims 14-16 depend from amended Claim 13, Claims 28-30 depend from amended Claim 19, Claims 44-46 depend from amended Claim 32, Claims 59-61 depend from amended Claim 48 and Claims 74-76 depend from amended Claim 63.

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

**Conclusion**

Applicants have endeavored to address all of the Examiner's concerns as expressed in the outstanding Office Action. In light of the above remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections is specifically requested.

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Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.



Respectfully submitted,

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